

# Project Lifecycle

Identify the idea, opportunity, issue or problem



## Discovery

Identify problem to be solved and decide whether the organisation is best placed to design a project (aligned with strategic goals).

### Essential:

- ✔ [Project plan](#) - Discovery section

### Supporting Tools (optional)

Project management software

[Stakeholder mapping](#)

Design thinking tools:

- [Problem statement framing](#)
- [Problem tree](#)
- [Prioritisation matrix](#)
- [Empathy map](#)
- [Experience mapping](#)



## Design

Identify project objectives, outcomes and define project boundaries.

### Essential:

- ✔ [Project plan](#) - Design Section

### Supporting Tools (optional)

Project management software

[Stakeholder mapping](#)

[Stakeholder engagement plan](#)

[Partnership agreement](#)

[Logic model](#)

[Partnerships approach & tools](#)

[Innovation model](#)

Design thinking tools



## Planning

Detailed planning including milestones, resources, evaluation, communication, risks and stakeholder requirements.

### Essential:

- ✔ [Project plan](#) - Planning section OR
- ✔ [Business Case Template](#) (for projects requiring significant additional resources)

### Supporting Tools (optional)

Project management software

[Evaluation plan](#)

[Communications plan](#)

[Partnerships approach & tools](#)

[Innovation model](#)

Issues & risks registers



## Delivery

Implement and monitor project as planned, adjust if required.

### Essential:

- ✔ [Implement Evaluations](#)
- ✔ [Executive Communications](#)

### Supporting Tools (optional)

Project management software

[Project progress report](#)

[Change requests](#)

Issues & risks registers



## Closure

Evaluate and report on project outcomes, ensuring that learnings are shared. Transition to a business-as-usual plan, if appropriate, and integrate the project's impact and approach sustainably. Outline any follow-up projects required.

### Essential:

- ✔ [Project Closure Report](#) AND/OR
- ✔ [Evaluation report](#)

### Supporting Tools (optional)

Project management software

[Lessons learned log](#)

Case Study

Project closure presentation

! **Project sponsor review and sign off**

! **DECISION POINT**  
**Consider leadership approval**  
Sponsor and Project Lead allocated

! **DECISION POINT**  
**Sponsor approval of project plan and budget**

! **DECISION POINT**  
**Approval of project design**

! **Collaborative online versions of the tools are available on our [website](#)**

Gateways to the next stage of the lifecycle - Obtain approval to proceed before committing more resources